REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 and 13 remain pending in the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-279-5098.

Respectfully submitted,

March 22, 2004

Date

Charles J. Kulas Reg. No. 35,809

Tel: 415-279-5098